IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

) Attorney Docket No.: ICB0264
) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
) Examiner: Unassigned
) Date: July 10, 2006))))

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop: PCT

United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):

_	within three months of the filing date of this application (not a C.P.A.);
X	within three months of the date of entry of the National Stage;
_	before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a

A copy of each non-U.S. document identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

-1-

Attorney Dkt. No. ICB0264 Serial No. Unassigned

PTO/SB/08B is attached, however, in accordance with Official Gazette Notice dated August

5, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Attached is a copy of the Search Report and the International Preliminary

Examination Report issued in the corresponding International application. Since all of the

documents cited herein were cited in said Search Report and IPER, it is believed that the

relevancy of each document cited is clear from the Search Report and IPER. Accordingly, no

further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially

cited, and that the Examiner initial a copy of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, and

return them to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the

requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the

Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No.

50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC

Registration No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC Suite PH-1 2300 Ninth Street, South Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700 Facsimile: (703) 979-7429

E-mail: gands@szipl.com Customer No.: 24203

-2- 03-2006

	Application Number Filing Date		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	First Named Inventor	Roma	an MERZ
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)	Art Unit		
(not for submission under or or it mas)	Examiner Name		
	Attorney Docket Number	er	ICB0264

U.S.PATENTS Remove											
U.S.FAIENIS											
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Patent Number	Kind Code ¹	Issue D	ate	of cited Document		Releva	Pages,Columns,Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
/S.G./	1	6483461	B1	2002-11	1-19	Matheney et al.					
If you wisl	h to ac	dd additional U.S. Pater	t citatio	n inform	ation pl	ease click the	Add button.		Add		
			U.S.P	ATENT	APPLIC	CATION PUBL	LICATIONS		Remove		
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Publication Number	Kind Code ¹	Publica Date	tion	Name of Pate of cited Docu	entee or Applicant ment	Releva		Lines where Jes or Relev	
/S.G./	1	20030095609	A1	2003-05	5-22	Cowie et al.					
/S.G./	2	20030058963	A1	2003-03	3-27	Cattaneo et al.					
/S.G./	3	20030198308	A1	2003-10)-23	Hoctor et al.					
/S.G./	4	20030002347	A1	2003-01	1-02	Seki et al.					
If you wish to add additional U.S. Published Application citation information please click the Add button. Add											
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Remove											
Examiner Initial*	Cite No	Foreign Document Number ³	Country Code ²		Kind Code ⁴	Publication Date	Name of Patentee Applicant of cited Document	e or V	vhere Rele	or Relevant	T5

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		
Filing Date		
First Named Inventor	Roma	an MERZ
Art Unit		
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number		ICB0264

	1								
If you wis	h to ac	dd add	litional Foreign F	atent Document	citation	information pl	ease click the Add buttor	1 Add	
				NON-PATE	NT LITE	RATURE DO	CUMENTS	Remove	
Examiner Initials* Cite No Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, pages(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.								T5	
/S.G./	1	International Search Report issued in corresponding application no. PCT/EP2004/014515 completed April 8, 2005 and mailed April 18, 2005.							
/S.G./	/S.G./ 2 International Preliminary Examination Report issued in corresponding application no. PCT/EP2004/014515								
If you wis	h to ac	dd add	litional non-pate	nt literature docu	ment ci	tation informat	ion please click the Add b	outton Add	-
				EX	AMINE	R SIGNATUR	E		
Examiner	Examiner Signature /Santiago Garcia/ Date Considered 06/01/2009								
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.									
¹ See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <u>www.USPTO.GOV</u> or MPEP 901.04. ² Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ³ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁴ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁵ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.									

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number		
Filing Date		
First Named Inventor	Roma	an MERZ
Art Unit	•	
Examiner Name		
Attorney Docket Number		ICB0264

	CERTIFICATION STATEMENT								
Plea	Please see 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 to make the appropriate selection(s):								
	That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1).								
OR	OR								
	That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. See 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2).								
	See attached cer	rtification statement.							
	Fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17 (p) has been submitted herewith.								
√	None								
SIGNATURE A signature of the applicant or representative is required in accordance with CFR 1.33, 10.18. Please see CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature.									
Sigr	nature	/Joerg-Uwe Szipl/	/Joerg-Uwe Szipl/ Date (YYYY-MM-DD)						
Nan	ne/Print	Joerg-Uwe Szipl	Registration Number	31799					
			•						

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

- 1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether the Freedom of Information Act requires disclosure of these record s.
- A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a
 court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement
 negotiations.
- 3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
- A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspections or an issued patent.
 - 9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.